

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of:  
Takaji WAKITA et al.

Application No.: NEW

Art Unit: N/A

Filed: November 23, 2005

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: A NUCLEIC ACID CONSTRUCT  
CONTAINING A NUCLEIC ACID DERIVED  
FROM THE GENOME OF HEPATITIS C  
VIRUS (HCV) OF GENOTYPE 2a, AND A  
CELL HAVING SUCH NUCLEIC ACID  
CONSTRUCT INTRODUCED THEREIN

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This amendment includes:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.